

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN DIEGO REGION**

**TENTATIVE ORDER NO. R9-2020-0221**

**AN ORDER RESCINDING ORDER NO. 88-05,  
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR  
MOUNTAIN EMPIRE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT,  
MOUNTAIN EMPIRE JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL,  
SAN DIEGO COUNTY**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board), finds that:

1. Order No. 88-05, *Waste Discharge Requirements for Mountain Empire Unified School District, Mountain Empire Junior and Senior High School, San Diego County*, established requirements for the discharge of domestic wastewater from an onsite wastewater treatment system (OWTS), which consists of two septic tanks that drain to one leach field and one seepage pit. Domestic wastewater from the Mountain Empire Unified School District OWTS (Facility) is collected from restrooms at the Mountain Empire Junior and Senior High School. The Facility is located at 3291 Buckman Springs Road, Pine Valley, in San Diego County. The San Diego Water Board adopted Order No. 88-05 on February 8, 1988.
2. The San Diego Water Board notified the County of San Diego Department of Environmental Health (County of San Diego) on June 12, 2020, that the Facility is eligible for regulation under the authority of the County of San Diego's Local Agency Management Plan.
3. The State Water Resources Control Board adopted the Water Quality Control Policy for Siting, Design, Operation, and Maintenance of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS Policy), which allows local agencies to approve OWTS, based on a local ordinance, after approval of the *Local Agency Management Plan for Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems* (LAMP) by a Regional Water Quality Control Board. The purpose of the LAMP is to allow the continued use of OWTS within the jurisdiction of local agencies, as well as to expand the local program to permit and regulate alternative OWTS, while protecting water quality and public health. The County of San Diego LAMP was approved by the San Diego Water Board on April 29, 2015.
4. The discharge from the Facility is eligible for oversight by the County of San Diego under the LAMP based on information provided in monitoring reports and information obtained during a compliance inspection conducted by San Diego Water Board staff on February 24, 2020. As such, the discharge from the Facility is more appropriately regulated under the County of San Diego LAMP than under individual waste discharge requirements.

5. The San Diego Water Board heard and considered all comments pertaining to the adoption of Order No. R9-2020-0221 in a December 8, 2020, public meeting.
6. Adoption of Order No. R9-2020-0221 is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, Public Resources Code, section 21000 et seq.). Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14 (title 14) sections 15060(c)(2) and 15061(b)(3), the action to rescind Order No. 88-05 will not have potentially significant adverse effects on the environment because the discharges that were regulated by Order No. 88-05 are now regulated under the County of San Diego LAMP. In addition, adoption of Order No. R9-2020-0221 is exempt from CEQA pursuant to categorical exemptions listed in title 14, section 15301 (ongoing or existing projects). Finally, activities at this facility as allowed by the OWTS Policy will be covered under the County of San Diego LAMP, which was adopted in compliance with CEQA.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that Order No. 88-05 is rescinded.

*I, David W. Gibson, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region, on December 8, 2020.*

**TENTATIVE**

David W. Gibson, Executive Officer